

To: Gray, David[gray.david@epa.gov]; Allen, Laura[Allen.Laura@epa.gov]; EOC Public Information[EOC_Public_Information@epa.gov]; Press[Press@epa.gov]
Cc: Grantham, Nancy[Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov]; Deitz, Randy[Deitz.Randy@epa.gov]
From: StClair, Christie
Sent: Thur 9/17/2015 8:50:05 PM
Subject: Re: Gold King blowout question
[9-17-2015-Joint-Committee-Hearing-on-EPA-Animas-Spill-Wolk-CO-Testimony.pdf](#)
[Post-GKM Draft Conceptual Monitoring Plan 9 17 2015.pdf](#)

Looping in Randy who helped me draft this.

Personal Phone/Ex. 6

From: Gray, David
Sent: Thursday, September 17, 2015 4:18 PM
To: Allen, Laura; EOC Public Information; Press
Cc: Grantham, Nancy
Subject: RE: Gold King blowout question

I would point him to the long term monitoring plan which will look at sediments along the watershed and also CDPHE Wolk's testimony from today's hearing.

From: Allen, Laura
Sent: Thursday, September 17, 2015 3:08 PM
To: EOC Public Information; Press
Cc: Grantham, Nancy; Gray, David
Subject: Fwd: Gold King blowout question

Christie- inquiry below from AP. Can EOC help with a draft response?

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Elliott, Dan" <delliott@ap.org>
To: "Allen, Laura" <Allen.Laura@epa.gov>
Subject: Gold King blowout question

Laura:

Does the EPA have any plans to remove any contaminated soil or sludge from along the Animas River in New Mexico or Colorado? Dr. David Weindorf of Texas Tech University and Russell Begaye of the Navajo Nation have both raised the issue.

Weindorf said he found a handful of sites along the banks of the Animas in the two states where sludge contained levels of metals (aluminum, iron, copper, zinc, arsenic and lead) that exceeded EPA standards for residential soils. He said this in testimony before the Senate Indian Affairs Committee yesterday and again this morning when I interviewed him.

He questioned why no effort was being made to remove the metals, which he described as being in a discolored sludge.

Begaye raised the issue at this morning's hearing before the House Natural Resources and Oversight and Government Reform committees. He said, "They need to get out there and remove the soil that's contaminated, remove that yellow soil from our land and make sure that soil is clean."

Does the EPA think the sludge should be removed? Has EPA considered removing it, or requesting that another state or federal agency remove it?

Thanks.

I'm attaching a copy of Weindorf's report, in case you're interested.

Dan Elliott

